

Ms Rachel Onikosi
Policy Manager
Department for Business, Innovation & Skills
Consumer & Competition Policy Directorate
1 Victoria Street
London SW1H 0ET

2 January 2013

Dear Ms Onikosi

**CONSULTATION ON CHANGES TO STREET TRADING AND PEDLARY
LAW - COMPLIANCE WITH EU SERVICES DIRECTIVE**

The Newspaper Society represents the UK local and regional media. Our members publish around 1100 newspaper titles, dailies and weeklies, paid-for and free, and some 1600 websites as well as hundreds of other print, digital and broadcasting channels. Local and regional media employ some 30,000 people.

Schedule 4 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 presently states, in Paragraph 1(2)(d), that trading as a news vendor is not within the definition of "street trading"

provided that the news vending is carried out within the terms of Paragraph 1(3) including in relation to the size of stall/receptacle.

Clearly it is most important that this limited exemption, which has been accorded to news vending for a great many years, should continue to be maintained in any revision to the Schedule. We would also strongly oppose any extension to the conditions presently contained in Paragraph 1(3).

There is a further consequence of the exemption since the restriction in employment of children for street trading pursuant to the Children & Young Persons Act 1933 similarly would not apply to news vending which is itself outside the definition of street trading under the LGMPA. It is of course far more commonly the case that young people are employed as newspaper deliverers rather than as vendors, but nevertheless we would wish to see this potential flexibility maintained (although of course local by-laws may well place additional restrictions on employment on children in particular areas).

It would appear from the consultation paper that there is no impact from the Directive which would necessitate any change to Paragraph 1(2)(d)) in relation to news vendors, and we would very much welcome your confirmation that this exemption will be maintained.

We look forward to hearing from you. Please do not hesitate to contact me if we can provide any further information.

Yours sincerely

Sue Oake
Senior Legal Adviser
Political, Editorial and Regulatory Affairs Department

